GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2522
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2006
INDO MYANMAR CO OPERATION IN ENERGY SECTOR
Subba Shri Moni Kumar

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend all cooperation to Myanmar in the Energy Sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) : Yes Sir,

(b) : (I) National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) has done pre- feasibility study for the Tamanthi Hydroelectric Project (1200 MW).

(II) In January, 2005 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India & Myanmar for cooperation in petroleum sector. Cooperation in this sector envisages following:

- Participation of Indian companies in the petroleum exploration programme of Myanmar.

- Export of Myanmar natural gas to India.

- Construction of Myanmar-India Gas Pipeline.

- Participation of Indian companies in the downstream and marketing sector.

(III) A demonstration project for small and medium scale industries using Biomass Gasifier System was set up in April, 2003.

(IV) The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has undertaken a project for strengthening education infrastructure in Myanmar through use of Renewable Energy Technologies.

India has also agreed to cooperation in Energy Sector with neighbouring countries in Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). Myanmar is one of the member countries in this initiative. A Plan of Action for cooperation in Energy Sector in BIMSTEC was adopted by the Energy Ministers` Conference held in October, 2005. A copy of the Plan of Action is enclosed at Annexure.

ANNEXURE
ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2522 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 18.08.2006.

FIRST BIMSTEC ENERGY MINISTERS` CONFERENCE OCTOBER 4, 2005 NEW DELHI, INDIA

Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation in BIMSTEC

(A) BIMSTEC Trans Power Exchange and Development Project

i) Task Force being led by Thailand, with representatives of member countries, will give a report within one year on draft MOU for grid interconnections. The Task Force would consider issues which inter alia include flow of electricity on a non- discriminatory basis taking cognizance of capacity availability in respective national grids, also to consider steps to harmonise technical, planning and operational standards of the national grids for removing barriers to grid interconnections.

ii) A Workshop on Harmonization of Grid Standards would be hosted by India some times in December 05.

(B) Trans BIMSTEC Gas Pipeline(s)

iii) A Task Force is to be constituted with representatives of all member countries for deciding Terms of Reference for the study on Trans BIMSTEC Gas Pipeline(s) and suggesting further course of action after taking into account the work done so far. Thailand

would host the first Meeting of this Task Force early next year.

Thailand also offered to host a Workshop on Petroleum Reserves in BIMSTEC Region. It was agreed that this Workshop would be organized to coincide with the first meeting of the Task Force.

iv) India will host a Conference to consider Energy Charter Treaty and other such arrangements which have emerged for regional energy trade, in February-March 2006.

(C) Hydro potential of the BIMSTEC region

v) India would host a workshop on sharing of experiences in developing hydro projects.

(D) Non −Conventional Sources of energy

vi) Myanmar will coordinate setting up a web site with the help of all member countries. India would prepare a concept paper on broad structure, content and operational mechanism of the agreed website. In this regard, a meeting will be held in Bangkok in the later half of November 2005 for discussing the concept paper and steps required to take the activity further.

vii) Nepal will host a workshop on Small Hydro Projects. Nepal to confirm the venue and date latest by January 2006.

viii) Thailand will host a Workshop and site visits for member countries, in the area of rice husk cogeneration in second half of year 2006.

ix) India will prepare a status paper on renewable sources of energy in member countries to be presented in next SEnOM.

x) Solar Energy Centre in India will coordinate cooperation activity in association with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in solar energy systems/devices, standards and testing.

xi) The BIMSTEC Task Force on Renewable Energy would carry out harmonization of standards for various non-conventional energy sources.

(E) Energy Efficiency

xii) Sri Lanka would host a two day workshop on experience sharing in certification of energy managers and energy auditors in the second quarter of the year 2006.

xiii) An expert group will be constituted with participation of all the member countries on standards and labeling to be led by India. This would include testing systems, procedures and hardwares. The Expert Group will meet in second quarter of the year 2006. All member countries to forward names of their nominees to India. India would confirm the dates and venue for the meeting latest by January 2006.

(F) Energy Security

xiv) A two day conference on sharing of experience regarding efficient development of coal resources will be hosted by Bangladesh in September 2006. Venue and dates to be confirmed by Bangladesh by April 2006.

xv) A workshop for discussing concept note on BIMSTEC Energy Centre would be hosted by India on January 25-27, 2006.

xvi) A workshop on sharing of experiences on Rural Electricity Cooperatives (to be confirmed by Bangladesh).

xvii) Bhutan will organize a workshop on sharing of experiences in rural electrification with emphasis on remote area electrification some time in May/June 2006. Bhutan to confirm the venue and date by January 2006.